

Aim 3: (Longitudinal Data)

“Using prospective data collected through the WIC program, examine relations between diet from age 2 to age 4 and childhood obesity as measured by excess adiposity among 4-year-old children. Specifically, we hypothesize that a high-fat diet leads to greater childhood obesity and that a diet high in fruits, vegetables, and fiber is associated with lower levels of obesity. Building on the food pyramid, health outcomes from this study, and other sources, we will define diet quality for this age range.”

Task E: Prospective analysis of diet and health

Summary & Abstracts

Prospective analyses looking at dietary composition as well as beverage consumption and changes in body mass index among low-income preschool children using longitudinal aggregate nutrition data from the state of North Dakota was completed. Much of the initial effort included data management and matching of records. The North Dakota Department of Health staff provided invaluable assistance to make this possible. The abstracts included in Appendix H were presented at the April 2001 FASEB meeting as well as at the 2001 Childhood Obesity Conference in San Diego, California. Subsequently, 2 complete manuscripts based on the work presented in these abstracts are under peer review.